

NEW WORLD GYMNETINI:  
AN ATTEMPT AT CLARIFICATION  
(COLEOPTERA: SCARABAEIDAE)

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In recent years a number of papers have been published on the Gymnetini, mainly dealing with generic concepts and nomenclature. Unfortunately, the result of these disconnected, and often obscure, papers has been confusion as to which names are valid, and which taxa are placed where. The following is an attempt to trace the history of these publications, and to present a summary of the status of the generic concepts involved.

Casey (1915) in his treatment of the genus *Gymnetis* MacLeay described the subgenus *Gymnetina* (based upon *G. cretacea* LeConte) and indicated type species for *Cotinus* and *Gymnetis*. Leng (1920) listed 3 North American species of *Gymnetis* (*sallei* Schaum, *argenteola* Bates, *cretacea* LeConte). Schürhoff (1937) published a revision of *Gymnetis* in which he divided the "traditional" *Gymnetis* into a number of genera (*Gymnetis*, *Paragymnetis*, *Maculinetis*, *Cineretis*, *Jansonia*, and *Astroscara*).

Blackwelder (1939) included in his list some of the changes made by Schürhoff (i.e., *G. argenteola* transferred to *Cineretis*) and reported *Gymnetis chevrolati* G. & P. from Arizona. Blackwelder later (1944) cited all of the Schürhoff generic changes for the Latin American species.

In 1949 Martinez noted that the type species of *Gymnetis* (*Scarabaeus nitidus* L., by monotypy) was placed by authors in *Cotinus*, and that the concepts of the 2 genera were incorrect. He further stated that the genera created by Schürhoff must be considered "Nomen nulum", the result of Schürhoff's failure to designate type species. Martinez then placed *Cotinus* in synonymy with *Gymnetis*; elevated *Gymnetina* Casey to generic status for the species formerly considered *Gymnetis* (and proposed a new subgenus of *Gymnetina*, *Gymnetoides*, with *Paragymnetis* Schürhoff as a synonym); described a new genus, *Gymnetosoma*; resurrected *Marmarina* Kirby 1827 for the species formerly in *Maculinetis* Schürhoff; and proposed *Hologymnetis* as a replacement for *Cineretis* Schürhoff, designating type species for all.

Goodrich (1965) resurrected *Balsameda* Thomson from *Cotinus*, revised *Cotinus* (1966), and appealed to the Commission of Zoological Nomenclature to preserve earlier concepts of *Cotinus* and *Gymnetis*.

In Opinion 806 (1967) the Commission acted upon Goodrich's appeal by: 1) accepting Casey's (1915) designation of *Gymnetis mutabilis* G. & P. as type species of *Cotinus* and 2) designated *Scarabaeus lanius* L. as type species of *Gymnetis* under the Plenary Powers. Since, at the time of the Commission's action, *Scarabaeus lanius* L. was not in *Gymnetis*, but was the type species of *Gymnetoides* Martinez, this further changed generic nomenclature and concepts.

The net result of these actions has been a nearly complete change in the nomenclature of many important New World genera. In an attempt to clarify the generic concepts in the Gymnetini, I have presented below a list-

ing of the genera and their synonyms, and where there have been substantial changes, of their type species and other included species. In other cases, citations to existing species lists are noted. In some cases, species removed to other genera are noted. Where there are no citations to species lists, the reader should refer to Blackwelder (1944) for included species and their synonymies.

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#### A Summary of the New World Gymnetini

*Blaesia* Burmeister 1842

*Tiarocera* Burmeister 1842

*Allorrhina* Burmeister 1842

*Argyripa* Thomson 1878

*Chiriquiba* Bates 1889

*Cotinus* Burmeister 1842. Type species *Gymnetis mutabilis* Gory & Percheron 1833 (by Casey 1915, reaffirmed by Opinion 806 of International Commission of Zoological Nomenclature).

= *Latemnis* Thomson 1880. Type species *Cotinus antonii* Duges.

= *Cotinorrhina* Schoch 1895. Type species *Cotinus columbica* Burm.

Subgenus *Cotinus* Burmeister

17 species. See Goodrich 1966 for species treatment.

Subgenus *Criniflava* Goodrich 1966. Type species *Cotinus producta* Bates. (by original designation)

2 species. See Goodrich 1966.

*Balsameda* Thomson 1880. Type species *Cotinus pulverulenta* Burmeister. (by monotypy)

2 species. See Goodrich 1965.

*Heterocotinus* Martinez 1948. Type species *Cotinus semiopaca* Moser. (by original designation)

*semiopaca* (Moser) (from *Cotinus*)

*terminata* (Gory & Percheron) (from *Cotinus*)

= *klugi* (Gory & Percheron)

*smaragdina* (Gory & Percheron) (from *Cotinus*)

*nitidicollis* (Moser) (from *Cotinus*)

*Hadrosticta* Kraatz 1892

*Guatemalica* van de Poll 1886

*Badelina* Thomson 1880

*Amithao* Thomson 1878

= *Desicasta* Schoch 1895

= *Hologymnia* Schoch 1895

= *Melasictes* Thomson 1880

*Desicasta* Thomson 1878

= *Moscheuma* Thomson 1880

*Gymnetis* MacLeay 1819. Type species *Scarabaeus lanius* Linnaeus

(by Plenary Powers)

= *Gymnetoides* Martinez 1949. Type species *S. lanius* Linnaeus

(by original designation)

= *Paragymnetis* Schürhoff 1937. Type species not designated

*chalcipes* (Gory & Percheron)  
*flavomarginata* (Blanchard)  
*hebraica* (Drapeaux)  
*hieroglyphica* (Vigors)  
*lanius* (Linnaeus)  
*punctipennis* (Burmeister)  
*strigosa* (Olivier)  
*subpunctata* (Westwood)

see Blackwelder 1944:263 for species synonymy. (cited as *Paragymnetis*)

*Gymnetosoma* Martinez 1949. Type species *Cetonia flaveola* Fabricius  
 (by original designation)

(= *Gymnetis* of Schürhoff and Blackwelder)

*bajula* (Olivier)  
*chevrolati* (Gory & Percheron)  
*coturnix* (Burmeister)  
*flaveola* (Fabricius)  
*holosericea* (Olivier)  
*margineguttata* (Gory & Percheron)  
*marmorea* (Olivier)  
*pantherina* (Blanchard)  
*pardalis* (Gory & Percheron)  
*rufilateris* (Illiger)  
*stellata* (Latreille)

see Blackwelder 1944:262 for species synonymy. (*Gymnetis*, in part)

*Marmorina* Kirby 1827. Type species *Cetonia maculosa* Olivier (by Martinez 1949)

= *Maculinetus* Schürhoff 1937. Type species not designated  
*argentina* (Moser)  
*maculosa* (Olivier)  
*tigrina* (Gory & Percheron)

see Blackwelder 1944:263 for species synonymy. (cited as *Maculinetus*)

*Hologymnetis* Martinez 1949. Type species *Cetonia undulata* Vigors  
 (by original designation)

= *Cineretis* Schürhoff 1937. Type species not designated  
*argenteola* (Bates)  
*cinerea* (Gory & Percheron)  
*undulata* (Vigors)

see Blackwelder 1944:263 for species synonymy (cited as *Cineretis*)

*Gymnetina* Casey 1915. Type species *Gymnetis cretacea* LeConte (by monotypy)

*cretacea* (LeConte)

*Jansonella* Blackwelder 1944. Type species *Gymnetis anceps* Janson  
 (by original designation)

= *Jansonia* Schürhoff 1937 (nec. Bates 1891)  
*anceps* (Janson)

*Astroscara* Schürhoff 1937. Type species *Gymnetis flavoradiata* Moser  
 (by original designation)

*flavoradiata* (Moser)

*Hoplopyga* Thomson 1880

*Hoplopygothrix* Schürhoff 1933

*Macrocranius* Schürhoff 1935. Type species *Macrocranius similis* Schürhoff  
 (by monotypy)

*similis* Schürhoff

*Corvicoana* Strand 1935

= *Heteropodia* Schürhoff 1933 (nec. Loriol 1887)

**Present Names of the U.S. Species of Gymnetini**

- Hologymnetis argenteola* (Bates)  
*Gymnetina cretacea* (LeConte)  
*Gymnetis flavomarginata* Blanchard (= *sallei* Schaum)

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**NOTICE**

The North American Beetle Fauna Project (NABFP) announced in its latest release that the "Yellow Version" of the Checklist of Beetles of North America is nearing completion. Copies can be obtained in the 4 following ways: 1) as a Fellow (\$30 per yr.) or a Contributing (Life) member; 2) by advance subscription (\$200); 3) by purchase of parts (\$25 ea.) if available from overruns; 4) as an Associate, gratis copy of your specialty. Orders should be made to NABFP, Box 108, Rensselaerville, N.Y. 12147.

